

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): FRENCH, Gary L., et al.

Atty. Docket: 78104.028

Title: IDENTIFICATION OF BACTERIA BY AMPLIFICATION AND PROBING

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Box: PCT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

In advance of prosecution, Applicants respectfully request that the following amendment be entered.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel existing Claims 1-38 without prejudice on the merits, and insert therefor new Claims 39-77 as follows:

- 39. (New) A method for identifying bacteria in a test sample, the method comprising:
- (a) amplifying a portion of 23S rDNA present in the test sample using a primer pair comprising a first primer comprising one or more oligonucleotides having a sequence as shown in SEQ. ID. NO: 1; and a second primer comprising an oligonucleotide having a sequence as shown in SEQ. ID. NO: 2, to thereby yield amplicons; and then
 - (b) probing with the amplicons of step (a) oligonucleotides designed to identify bacteria which may be present in the sample, wherein selective hybridization of the amplicons to the oligonucleotides indicates the identity of the bacteria present in the sample.